



Surety Sector Report

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Surety Laboratories (COCO)s

- Battelle Memorial Institute
- CUBRC
- Midwest Research Institute
- Southwest Research Institute



Update of Previous Issues

- Inspections

- Situation of numerous inspections is improving
- Combining of inspections has been discussed and will be starting within the next few months
- AMC and ECBC will perform a combined inspection at CUBRC



Update of Previous Issues

- New AMC Surety team leader (Mr. Pete Cooper, COL retired)
 - COCO labs met with Mr. Cooper at Battelle in January
 - Modified approach to inspections
 - New definition of “deficiency”
 - Work to improve COCO programs together



Support of Non-Government Organizations

- Congressional language making DOD-owned chemical agent available to states, local governments and private entities for development and testing
 - Comply with the Chemical Weapons Convention
 - Defensive purposes only
 - Pay in advance for actual costs of supplying chemical agents and precursors



Support of Non-Government Organizations

- Where we are now...
 - COCOs are working with OSD to establish the process
 - Challenge will be the mechanism of payment for the agent
 - Potential solutions are being discussed among COCO labs



Industry Survey - Surety Support

- Survey was sent to sector reps for distribution
 - What CWA support is needed?
 - Where is it being acquired from?
 - What is the timeliness and quality of support?
 - What would improve support?



Survey Results Summary

- 12 total responses
- Sources used:
 - ECBC/DPG (10)
 - COCO Labs (7)
 - Foreign Government Labs (5)
 - Other Labs – under DOC rules (3)
- Overall satisfaction level was good



Industry Survey Comments

- ECBC and many of the COCO labs have been inaccessible to us due to unpredictable schedules or very high cost (SB)
- Lacking the ability of our industry to conduct proprietary R&D without competition or interference from ECBC (SB)
- We are concerned about the bias in some labs [Government] towards internally developed technologies that directly compete with Industry (SB)



Industry Survey Comments

- Easy access to surety facilities and agent. Current support is not very industry friendly as labs are too used to working on USG funded projects (SB)
- The negotiated schedule slipped more than 9 months due to other priorities. This strained our relationship with our Government customer (FT)
- We would like to be able to test the efficacy of systems for throughput studies and completion of decontamination studies of various CWA (O&M)



Highly Toxic Materials (HTM)

- NTA Health and Safety Council (NTAHSC) organized by JPEO-CBD in July 2008.
 - Army, COCO, and National Labs; Porton (UK)
 - Address risks associated with study of new HTMs by government contractors
 - Propose guidelines to assure the materials are handled in a manner to maintain security and protect workers, the public, and the environment.



Highly Toxic Materials (HTM)

- Draft Operating Guide for Safe Handling of NTA Materials was prepared and submitted
 - Based on AR 50-6, surety bailment clauses in a guidebook template
- Draft was reviewed at the October 2008 meeting and editing assignments were made
- Next meeting is February 2009. Oversight and inspection authority will be discussed.



New Issues

- DHS Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT)
 - System for collecting and handling key data from chemical facilities to identify and mitigate vulnerabilities
- THE PROBLEM: DHS is requiring COCO facilities to report details on CWA materiel



DHS CSAT Problems:

- CWA is not owned by COCOs (DOD-owned)
- All required information being requested is available from U.S. Army (AMC has agreed to provide it)
- DHA requires Vulnerability Analyses to be provided to DHS (these are CLASSIFIED)
- Process is completely web-based which significantly increases security risks
- DHS reserves the right to inspect COCO facilities and claims authority to cease operations



DHS CSAT

- COCOs and AMC engaged DHS and provided a letter agreeing to provide all required information directly to DHS
- DHS provided an inflexible response stating that it is the law
- AMC (Mr. Pete Cooper) will engage DHS again to attempt to resolve the issue
- COCO laboratories will not provide information to DHS until receiving written contractual direction via Bailment Agreement Contracting Officer



Summary

- There are four COCO labs providing surety support to the CB community
- Chemical agent RDT&E support to non-government organizations has been approved and the process is being established
- Guidelines for use of HTM are being developed by the JPEO CBD and the NTAHSC
- DHS CSAT problem for COCO labs is being addressed by the laboratories and AMC